

## House Resolution 212

By: Representatives Keown of the 173<sup>rd</sup>, Tumlin of the 38<sup>th</sup>, Neal of the 1<sup>st</sup>, and Mills of the 25<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the contributions of Georgia's prison chaplains and declaring March 31, 2005,  
2 Prison Chaplains' Appreciation Day; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, studies prove that chaplaincy and faith-based programs have the strongest  
4 capacity for redeeming inmates, rehabilitating them, and successfully moving them back into  
5 society; and

6 WHEREAS, with over 48,000 incarcerated, Georgia leads the nation in the percentage of its  
7 population in prison; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia's 37 state prisons are served by dedicated prison chaplains whose  
9 funding and hours have been severely cut; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia prison chaplains are asked to meet the spiritual and physical needs of  
11 thousands of inmates on just 20 hours a week and very limited resources; and

12 WHEREAS, chaplains positively impact inmate behavior and reduce recidivism rates,  
13 thereby contributing to the safety and fiscal well-being of our state.

14 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
15 the members of this body join in recognizing the many sacrifices made by Georgia's prison  
16 chaplains, their untiring dedication, and their many contributions to the state.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body declare March 31, 2005,  
18 Prison Chaplains' Appreciation Day.